

Message Text

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45

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEA-10 AF-10 IO-14 CIAE-00

DODE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 TRSE-00

DRC-01 /158 W

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R 010900Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5126

INFO USUN NEW YORK 180

AMEMBASSY DICOSIA

DIA WASHDC

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: ARR/EI

SUBJ: DAIL APPROVES PEACEKEEPING CONTINGENT FOR MIDDLE EAST

1. ON COT 30, DAIL APPROVED IRISH CONTRIBUTION OF PEACEKEEPING TROOPS TO UNEF. THERE WERE NO OBJECTIONS, AND MANY DEPUTIES CONSIDERED UN INVITATION AN HONOR. SOME, HOWEVER, WERE CONCERNED ABOUT RISK TO TROOPS AND ABOUT DIFFICULTIES OF REPLACING THEM AT A TIME WHEN IRISH ARMY IS HARD PRESSED TO PATROL NI BORDER.

2. FONMIN FITZGERALD SAID THAT IRISH CONTINGENT WOULD TOTAL ABOUT 240 MEN OF ALL RANKS. ABOUT ONE-HALF WOULD BE TRANSFERRED FROM CYPRUS. (NEWSPAPERS REPORT THAT 138 IRISH TROOPS HAVE ALREADY LEFT CYPRUS FOR MIDDLE EAST.) ALL TROOPS SHOULD BE ON THEIR WAY BY WEEKEND, EVEN THOUGH THE HUNDRED-ODD MEN LEAVING FROM DUBLIN WILL BE COMPOSITE UNIT MADE UP OF VOLUNTEERS FROM VARIOUS COMMANDS. TOTAL COST OF FORCE EXPECTED TO BE APPROXIMATELY 30 MILLION DOLLARS FOR PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS.

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3. AT END OF DAIL DEBATE, FITZGERALD SAID THAT
PROVISION OF IRISH PEACEKEEPING CONTINGENT WOULD GIVE
GOI AN EXTRA REASON FOR TRYING TO STOP SUPPLY OF ARMS
TO MIDDLE EAST BY SUPER-POWERS.

4. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT PROVISION OF THIS
CONTINGENT, SMALL AS IT IS, WILL PUT SOME STRAIN ON
IRISH RESOURCES.
SORENSEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: cunninfx
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Drafter: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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